

# PATENT SPECIFICATION

1,110,004

NO DRAWINGS.

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1,110,004



Date of Application and filing Complete Specification:

27 July, 1965.

No. 31954/65.

Application made in Germany (No. B77857 VIb/55c) on

28 July, 1964.

Complete Specification Published: 18 April, 1968.

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Index at Acceptance:—D2 B(13C, 13E, 13F, 13H).

Int. Cl.:—D 21 h 3/02.

## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

### Improved Papers having High Mechanical Strength and Their Production.

- We, BADISCHE ANILIN- & SODA-FABRIK AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT, a German Joint Stock Company, of Ludwigshafen/Rhein, Federal Republic of Germany, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—
- The invention relates to improved papers having high stiffness, flat crushing strength, breaking length, bursting strength and folding endurance, and to a process for the production of these papers.
- Papers of the said type are used particularly for the production of corrugated cardboard, punched cards for data-processing machines and other papers which are exposed to heavy mechanical stress.
- High-quality papers of the said type are obtained inter alia from semi-chemical pulp, straw pulp or similar raw materials, whose relatively high cost is often disproportionate to the value of the end product, for example corrugated cardboard which is intended to be used only once.
- Since the strength properties are moreover dependent substantially linearly on the weight per unit area of the paper, a given strength required corresponds to a minimum paper weight and less than this should not be used. It is obvious that it is an object of the industry to decrease this minimum weight of the paper.
- Papers for the said purposes have also been made from raw materials which are less expensive than semi-chemical pulp but considerable disadvantages have to be tolerated. For example starting from waste paper, which moreover should consist of high-quality material, the freeness and consequently the investment and manufacturing costs must be considerably increased; if humic acid or pulp liquors in conjunction with aluminum sulfate be used, there is not only a relatively slight effect but difficulties also occur with dehydration of the paper pulp during sheet formation.
- Other suitable agents for increasing the strength properties of paper are water-soluble or water-swelling high-molecular-weight polysaccharides or their derivatives, such as starches, carboxymethylcellulose, mannogalactans and alginic acid, but retention of these agents by the paper fibers is very slight and their co-employment in paper manufacture necessitates a low machine speed owing to poor dewatering. Moreover the process water of the paper machines, in the presence of these polysaccharides, can only be clarified incompletely or by considerable further expenditure on flocculants.
- Furthermore, the use of fatty acid-alkylenepolyamine condensation products, together with if desired a starch or a polysaccharide gum, as sizing agents for paper is known from British Patent Specification No. 711,404.
- The present invention has for its object to improve the mechanical strength properties of paper by an inexpensive method which is easy to carry out industrially.
- We have found that paper can be ob-

[Price 4s. 6d.]

tained from a paper pulp containing water-soluble or water-swella-  
ble polysaccharides, or derivatives thereof, by adding a polyalky-  
lenimine to the said paper pulp prior to  
further processing. Within the scope of the  
present specification, the term "polyalky-  
lenimine" is not intended to include any con-  
densation products, and in particular any  
higher fatty acid-alkylenepolyamine con-  
densation products in the form of water-  
soluble amide salts.

Suitable polysaccharides for this purpose  
are the natural or chemically-modified poly-  
saccharides enumerated above and among  
these particularly carboxymethylcellulose  
and starch or mixtures of these two sub-  
stances. The amount of these substances  
required is as a rule from 0.5 to 3.5% by  
weight with reference to the fiber content  
of the pulp. The polysaccharides to be  
used should form clear solutions or, by  
reason of their swellability, colloidal solu-  
tions (gels) with water.

Particularly suitable polyalkylenimines are  
polyethylenimine and also polypropyleni-  
mine.

It is preferred to use polyalkylenimines  
whose 1% aqueous solutions have viscosi-  
ties of from 2 to 20 centipoise at 20°C.

The process according to the invention  
may be used successfully with all kinds of  
paper fibers, both with high-grade qualities  
on account of saving in material and with  
lower-grade qualities in order to make these  
suitable for the said purpose. The process  
therefore has great importance for the re-  
utilization of low-grade waste paper.

The process is advantageously carried  
out by intimately mixing the fibrous paper  
pulp with the polysaccharide in the beater  
or in a mixing chest until the polysaccharide  
has passed into solution or has become swol-  
len and finely dispersed. The pH value of  
the paper pulp should preferably be be-  
tween 5.5 and 8.0.

When mixing of the polysaccharide into  
the fibrous paper pulp has been completed,  
the polyalkylenimine is added, advantage-  
ously in the form of a dilute aqueous solu-  
tion. The further manufacture then takes  
place in the conventional way.

Papers which are very resistant to mech-  
anical stress are obtained according to the  
process of the invention, having values for  
strength properties which are from 10 to  
30% higher than in the case of equivalent  
papers which have been prepared without  
the addition of the said polysaccharides and  
a polyalkylenimine.

The improvements in the properties of the  
paper relate particularly to the tearing  
length, bursting strength, folding endurance  
and also to CMT value and flat crushing  
strength which are very characteristic fac-  
tors for the corrugations in corrugated card-

board; for a definition and methods of  
measuring these factors reference may be  
made inter alia to "Die Prüfung von Roh-  
papier auf seine Eignung als Wellpappene-  
inlage" (Testing raw paper as to its suit-  
ability as a ply in corrugated cardboard) by  
Professor Dr.-Ing. Brecht and Dipl.-Ing.  
Berthold published in Wochenblatt für  
Papierfabrikation, No. 11/12, 1959.

The advantages of the process according  
to this invention extend not only to the pro-  
duct of the process but also to the process  
itself, because the more rapid dewatering in  
the formation of sheets permits an accelera-  
tion of the manufacturing operation by  
about 10%. Moreover the presence of the  
polyalkylenimine, which acts as a flocculat-  
ing agent, makes possible a more rapid and  
more efficient purification of the process  
water of the paper machine.

The invention is further illustrated in the  
following Examples in which the percent-  
ages, unless otherwise stated, relate to the  
weight of paper fibers contained in the pulp  
and calculated as absolutely dry substance.

#### EXAMPLE 1

2% of a degraded maize starch, 0.5% of  
commercial carboxymethylcellulose, and  
subsequently 0.1% of polyethylenimine (vis-  
cosity in 1% solution at 20°C: 5 centi-  
poises) in the form of a 0.5% aqueous solu-  
tion are added in the beater to a suspension  
of fibrous material of 60% of waste corru-  
gated cardboard, 25% of mixed waste paper  
and 15% of periodicals, the suspension hav-  
ing a solids content of 5.0%. This paper-  
fiber pulp is then introduced into the paper  
machine and therein processed in the con-  
ventional way into a paper having a weight  
per unit area of 140 g/sq.m. A paper hav-  
ing a CMT value of 2.2 is obtained.

A paper prepared in the same way but  
without the addition of polyethylenimine has  
a CMT value which is 25% lower and  
correspondingly lower values for breaking  
length, bursting strength and folding en-  
durance. Moreover the solids content in  
the water in the wire section is about 60%  
higher and the maximum machine speed  
for equally good sheet formation is about  
10% slower.

#### EXAMPLE 2

A suspension of fibrous material of 85%  
of waste corrugated cardboard and Kraft  
paper which have been ground in an edge  
mill and 15% of knot pulp, having a solids  
content of 2.0% is mixed in a mixing chest  
with 1.0% of mannogalactan and then with  
0.08% of polyethylenimine (viscosity in 1%  
solution at 20°C: 3.7 centipoise) in the form  
of a 0.5% aqueous solution and the resul-  
tant paper pulp is processed in the conven-  
tional way into a paper having a weight  
per unit area of 130 g/sq.m.

The paper thus obtained has a CMT value of 2.0. This value, and consequently the values for breaking length, bursting strength and folding endurance, are about 15% higher than in the case of a paper without polyethylenimine added. Moreover the co-employment of polyethylenimine makes possible a machine speed which is about 12% higher and at the same time a decrease of about 60% in the solids content of the waste water.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A process for the production of paper from a paper pulp containing a polysaccharide which is soluble or swellable in water, or a derivative thereof, wherein a polyalkylenimine is added to the paper pulp prior to further processing.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polysaccharide is used in an amount of 0.5 to 3.5% by weight and the polyalkylenimine in an amount of 0.02 to

0.20% by weight, with reference to the fiber content of the paper pulp.

3. A process as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein potato starch, maize starch, carb-oxymethylcellulose, a mannogalactan or alginic acid is used as the polysaccharide.

4. A process according to any of claims 1 to 3 wherein the polyalkylenimine used is polyethylenimine.

5. A process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 wherein a paper pulp prepared from waste paper is used.

6. A process as claimed in claim 1 carried out substantially as described in either of the foregoing Examples.

7. Paper when obtained by the process claimed in any of claims 1 to 6.

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